

Message Text

SECRET

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7569

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S E C R E T OSLO 4678

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TAGS: MARR PFOR NATO NO

SUBJECT: COLLOCATED OPERATING BASES IN NORWAY

REF: OSLO 4677

REFTEL REPORTS AMBASSADOR'S CONVERSATION WITH ERIK HIMLE OF NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND NOTES THAT QUESTIONS POSED BY HIMLE WERE DISCUSSED IN GREATER DETAIL BY CHIEF OF OPERATIONS OF NORWEGIAN DEFENSE COMMAND WITH MGEN YOUNG OF AFNORTH. THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF GENERAL YOUNG'S CABLE TO USAFE (USDOCO KOLSAAS 191500Z DEC 73), SPELLING OUT THE NORWEGIAN QUESTIONS:

BEGIN TEXT

SUBJ: COLLOCATED OPERATING BASES (COBS) IN NORWAY (U)

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1. (S) THIS SUBJECT WAS DISCUSSED TODAY DURING A MEETING

BETWEEN MAJOR GENERAL K.S. YOUNG, THIS OFFICE, AND MAJOR GENERAL JOHN RYG, RNOAF, CHIEF OF OPERATIONS, NORWEGIAN DEFENSE COMMAND. GEN RYG INDICATED THAT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WOULD BE REQUIRED BEFORE THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE COULD FORMALLY PRESENT THIS MATTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND NORWEGIAN SECURITY COUNCIL. THE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED ARE:

A. WHAT IS THE INTENDED USE FOR U.S. AIRCRAFT OPERATING FROM NORWEGIAN COBS? ARE THEY TO BE USED IN THE DIRECT DEFENSE OF NORWAY? WILL THEY BE USED TO FLY MISSIONS IN CENTRAL EUROPE? AFTER DEPLOYMENT WILL THESE AIRCRAFT HAVE ANY SPECIALIZED OR DEFINITIVE MISSIONS?

B. WILL THE U.S. SQUADRONS ON NORWEGIAN COBS COME UNDER OPERATIONAL COMMAND OF CINCNORTH FOR EMPLOYMENT FOLLOWING THEIR ARRIVAL?

C. WILL THESE U.S. AIRCRAFT USE ONLY CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS?

D. WHAT EQUIPMENT AND IN WHAT QUANTITIES WILL BE PRESTOCKED AT COBS?

E. WILL UNITS DESIGNATED FOR COBS BE DEPLOYED TO OR EXERCISED IN NORWAY IN PEACETIME? IF SUCH ACTIVITY IS DESIRED COULD IT BE SCHEDULED IN CONJUNCTION WITH NATO EXERCISES?

F. WHAT NUMBERS AND KINDS OF NORWEGIAN PERSONNEL WOULD BE REQUIRED TO SUPPORT USAF UNITS DEPLOYED TO COBS? IF DEPLOYED DURING EXERCISES? IF DEPLOYED DURING AN EMERGENCY?

G. WHAT QUANTITIES OF POL WILL BE REQUIRED FOR USAF OPERATIONS FROM COBS DURING WARTIME? WILL THIS REQUIREMENT BE MET BY PRE-STOCKED SUPPLIES?

2. (S) FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF THIS INFORMATION, GEN RYG ANTICIPATES THAT THE MOD WILL INTRODUCE THIS SUBJECT DURING A PERIODIC SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING. IF APPROVAL IN PRINCIPAL IS RECEIVED, GEN RYG ENVISIONS A DETAILED AGREEMENT WOULD BE SIGNED AT THE MILITARY LEVEL, CINCUSAFE AND CHOD NORWAY.

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3. (S) IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR A JOINT USAF-RNOAF TEAM TO DEVELOP THE TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS PECULIAR TO EACH OF THE BASES OF INTEREST.

GDS1981. END TEXT. BYRNE

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